

GENERAL STRIKE IN FRANCE IS FEARED

General Federation of Labor May Issue Call to Save Its Reputation.

CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

Government Elated at Renal of Most Transport Workers to Walk Out.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1920, by THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD.
PARIS, May 10.—With more than twenty-five per cent of the transport workers refusing to obey the General Federation of Labor's strike order, the Government is frankly elated at the turn things have taken, and declares that the federation no longer represents French labor, but has been defeated by its own intention to substitute political policy for the pre-war policy of merely obtaining better wages and shorter hours of work.

The refusal of the railway workers to walk out in sympathy with the nationalization demands by the railroad and dock workers caused a sensation both in the Government and the Syndicate camps, and, coupled with the fact that the tram cars and the autobus drivers, with the assistance of the recently formed civic league of volunteer workers, maintain a nearly normal service in the Paris streets, points to the complete decay of the strike movement.

The only fear now is that the General Federation of Labor, in a final effort to save its reputation, may decide to send out an appeal or to order a general strike of all union labor in France; and this may happen at the next twenty-four hours, after a conference by the central labor body.

Would Obey Call if Issued.

Electrical workers and the postal employees, at a conference, decided to obey such a strike call if it was issued. This would tie up industrial and commercial life in France more effectively than did the transport defection.

The fact is that French labor is anxious to find some solution of the high cost of living problem, but does not intend letting itself be used as an instrument of the Socialist party to gain control over, or perhaps sovietize, the French Government.

The workers admit that had the strike been waged on a better policy it would have gained greater support, but the entrance of the Socialist party as a co-director of the movement with the General Federation of Labor revealed the political nature of the struggle before the proletariat had yielded to the pressure of the union leaders.

The Government's attitude is approved generally. It consists of searching out the leaders with Bolshevik ideas who have been able to swing the General Federation of Labor to its milder pre-war tendencies. The Government, while not refusing to confer with the federation leaders, insists that work must be resumed first.

Millard Is Upheld.

The position of Premier Millerand in standing up firmly and proving to labor that the Government must govern has been greatly strengthened by public opinion, as well as by journals which heretofore have taken advantage of every chance to criticize him. Even Leon Daudet, royalist editor of the Action Française, calls for extreme measures against labor agitators and warns the Government that it will collapse if it is unable to insure international peace to the nation.

POLES CLEAR ENEMY FROM DNEIPER RIVER

Ukrainian Capital May Be Established at Kieff.

By the Associated Press.
WARSAW, May 10.—The west bank of the Dnieper from Kieff to the river Brzezina has been cleared of the enemy, according to announcement here. The Bolsheviks are digging in at various points east of the Dnieper, but the Poles control the river and are making effective use of the Pripiet flotilla of river monitors.

The Kieff bombardment by the Bolsheviks continues at intervals.

According to army headquarters the Poles and Ukrainians, on their entrance into Kieff, were enthusiastically received by all the nationalities of the city. Thousands of Ukrainians who had been cut off from communication with the West since the occupation of the city by the Bolsheviks gave a particularly warm welcome to the Ukrainian forces. General Petura, it is said, plans to establish the capital of the new Ukrainian Republic in Kieff.

U. S. SHIPPING BILL STIRS A COMMONER

Member Queries Bonar Law About Protective Steps.

LONDON, May 10.—What measures the Government has proposed to take to protect British industries and shipping from the serious competition threatened by the shipping bill before the American Congress was the subject of inquiry by Robert P. Houston, Unionist, in the House of Commons today. Mr. Houston, who is head of a well-known firm of steamship owners and merchants, wanted to know whether the Government was aware that determined efforts were being made in the United States to create a great mercantile marine for the purpose of carrying the whole of the overseas trade of the United States and, by protective legislation against British and other foreign steam vessels.

Mr. Bonar Law replied that the British Ambassador at Washington had been instructed to send copies of the bill to London. Until these were received it was impossible to deal with the matter.

Rockwood & Co. Pays Dividend.

Rockwood & Co., manufacturers of chocolates and cocoa, have declared an annual dividend of \$4 a share for 1920, according to announcement made yesterday. There are outstanding 40,000 shares of the firm's stock of no par value and its net earnings for the first few months of 1920, it was reported yesterday, are approximately \$550,000 at the annual rate of \$1,650,000.

A Long Record

WE have been advising prudent people for many years. We have a very comfortable feeling about the results. We have talked mortgages as the safest and best investment.

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FRENCH LOOK FOR GERMAN TRADE

Business Men's Conferences in Paris Likely to Have Far-Reaching Result.

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PARIS, May 10.—That the approaching commercial conferences to be held in Paris between French and German business men are likely to have far-reaching results so far as America is concerned is suggested in unofficial circles here. It is believed that the groundwork will be laid for understandings which, while temporarily lacking Governmental approval, will probably result in the settlement of many economic difficulties of both countries.

Such agreements as the French are ready to propose were not provided for in the Treaty of Versailles, and it is pointed out that any unusual commercial relations between France and Germany will have to be approached warily and must not conflict with the treaty's clauses, especially agreements which might be construed as favorable to France and detrimental to the other allies.

Nevertheless the fact remains that French and German industries are both suffering because there is no method by which the materials needed by one can be shipped by the other. The policy of reconciliation, however, which seems to be gaining ground rapidly may change all this.

A present France's potash deposits in Alsace are unproductive of any wealth because the French transport service is disorganized by strikes, and the production is insufficient to cope with the demands.

American, England and Italy are all clamoring for potash and fertilizers, and the French believe that Germany may consent to supply these orders on France's behalf from the German mines in Silesia, from which locality transportation can be effected more easily. In return France is believed ready to propose the furnishing of phosphates from northern African colonies for Germany's use.

A similar agreement may be reached in regard to supplying the Ruhr furnaces with minerals from Alsace and Lorraine. Germany in return to give France a portion of the finished metal products which are necessary for the programme of a strong French merchant marine is to be carried out promptly. France can also supply Germany's requirements for basic materials containing aluminum, and may consent to do so if her former enemy will sell her dyestuffs and manufactured objects at reasonable prices.

Altogether the prospects for a satisfactory solution of these issues are considered brighter than at any time since the treaty makers confused the European situation by attempting to regulate the future commercial relations by a brief section of about a dozen clauses which failed to take into consideration the individual needs or potential resources of the warring countries.

French officials seem greatly impressed by Germany's expressed desire to handle these questions with business men instead of through Government channels, and they point out that Governmental success depends in a large measure on the economic status of the country. They also express the hope that neither French nor German representatives will let private feelings or animosity upset the growing tendency toward a conciliatory solution of their mutual problems.

DRAGGED OVER ICE TO GET WOUND TREATED

Ottawa Explorer Hurt Far From Civilization.

QUEBEC, May 10.—Dr. Corbett of Ottawa, attached to the expedition of H. P. Blake, Ungava explorer, today was receiving medical treatment here for a gunshot wound received 150 miles from civilization.

Dr. Corbett was accidentally shot in the abdomen when a 2.0 miller north arrow, as he was lifting his shotgun from the bottom of a canoe. Blake and some other members of his party started back with the wounded man, dragging him at times on a toboggan over the ice, carrying him on a stretcher for miles and making the rest of the trip back to civilization by canoe.

One canoe upset and the occupants were only rescued with difficulty. Provisions and outfit were lost and the party travelled for two days without food. Finally, eleven miles from the nearest house, with the rest of the party exhausted, two members pressed on and reached the little settlement of Riviere-a-Dore, from which a rescue party was despatched.

GERMANS REPORT RUHR WITHDRAWAL

They Are Reducing Force to Authorized Size.

CORLEW, May 10.—The allied military authorities were informed today that the Germans were completing immediately the withdrawal of the Reichswehr from the neutral zone down to the authorized number of units allowed by the August agreement, and expected as a consequence, French evacuation of Frankfurt.

An allied subcommittee is going to the Ruhr district to confirm this.

ALLY RECOGNITION OF SOVIET LOOMING

Belief Is Growing That Diplomatic Relations Are Fast Approaching.

GEDDES MAKES INQUIRIES

Russian Question Is Assuming Larger Importance in Coming Spa Conference.

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LONDON, May 10.—The question of Russia is assuming a growing importance in the forthcoming discussions at Spa. In informed circles here it was said Sir Auckland Geddes, British Ambassador in Washington, was carrying on informal inquiries there which may have a far-reaching effect on the decisions of the Allies regarding the Bolsheviks.

Meanwhile the eminently successful ending of Lord Curzon's negotiations with Georgevitch Tchitcherine, Bolshevik Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, regarding the safety of Gen. Denikin's army in Crimea, affords the latest proof that there is growing among the Allied nations, and especially in Great Britain, a belief that the time is coming fast when the Soviet Government must be recognized formally.

The correspondent of THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD saw a letter recently received by an American buyer of furs who was seeking to enter Russia from Denmark. In which Maxim Litvinoff, representing the Soviet Government, refused him permission to enter that country. In this letter Litvinoff said:

"In view of the hostile attitude of the Government of the United States to-

ward Russia, I regret that I am unable to grant permission to American citizens to enter Russia. Yours truly,

"MAXIM LITVINOFF."

Another element which is entering into the consideration of the Russian question is the Soviet's sweep southward through the Caucasus and their making up with Armenia, Georgia and the Azerbaijan Republic, thus imperiling Mesopotamia, which has just been revealed as Great Britain's one great hope of maintaining her oil supply "from within the empire." This is the term used in defining the corporate-Government alliance with the Dutch promoters, despite the fact that Mesopotamia is only "within the empire" under the terms of one of those mandates which the peace treaty-league covenant set forth shall operate first in the interest of the natives over whom the mandate shall apply.

It would be premature to say that the Spa conference will decide to recognize the Soviet, but on this point Italy will be with England. France alone being recalcitrant until some kind of a guarantee is obtained from Moscow to restore the huge public and private French investments which amount to 25,000,000,000 francs.

Aside from the Russian question, the British and French Premier's hope to attain unity of purpose on the joint steps to be taken in the future in case of German violation of the treaty—unity of purpose which they will endeavor to present at Spa. This, both Premier's realize, is much preferable to independent action, such as the French occupation of Frankfurt.

WON'T LONG DEFER SPA CONFERENCE

Paris Paper Sees No Advantage to the Allies.

PARIS, May 10.—The Journal des Debats, referring to the date of the proposed conference between representatives of the allied Powers and Germany at Spa, Belgium, declares it is easy enough to discern Germany's motives for requesting that it should be postponed.

"What advantage the Allies would find in an indefinite postponement of the conference," the newspaper continues,

"In the course of which Germany is to be made acquainted with realities already affirmed and decided by the allied Powers, is more difficult to detect. At San Remo the allied Governments agreed to make the Spa conference precede the Brussels financial and economic conference for which arrangements were made long ago, and which the allied and neutral Powers have found indispensable for the economic and financial restoration of Europe.

"It would not be possible to put off again the Brussels meeting, and we do not think that the arguments concerning home or electoral policies brought forward by the Berlin Cabinet are likely to make the Allies consent to a long postponement of the Spa conference, of which the Brussels conference will be a sort of continuation."

TO CALL UP PEACE RESOLUTION TO-DAY

Senators Expect to Vote This Week on Ending War.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—A vote by Thursday or Friday on the resolution to end the status of war with Germany and Austria was the aim of Senate leaders in arranging to-day for calling up the resolution to-morrow. The Republicans plan to keep it continuously before the Senate until the vote is reached, and leaders of both parties said little discussion was anticipated.

Senator McCumber of North Dakota, Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee and a leader of the so-called "mild reservation" group in the treaty fight, is to speak to-morrow against the Knox measure proposing repeal of the German and Austrian war declarations. Senator Hitchcock of Nebraska, the Administration leader, plans to speak on Wednesday against the resolution.

Only two or three speeches on the Republican side are planned. Senator Curtis of Kansas, Republican whip, stated to-day in the Senate, and he added that he was advised that the Democratic speech making also promised to be brief.

AMERICAN WOMEN ROBBED BY PIRATES

Voyagers on French Packet Held Up Near Batum.

By the Associated Press.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 9.—Pirates held up the French packet Souirah, which left Batum on May 6 en route to Marseilles, and after robbing the passengers of the steamer went ashore in boats, which they compelled members of the crew to man.

Among those on board the vessel were Mrs. Haskell, wife of Col. William Haskell, director-general of American relief in the Near East, and Mrs. Daly and Mrs. Booth, whose husbands are connected with relief work in Armenia. They were fleeing before the Bolshevik advance, and were forced to give up their money and jewelry at the point of a revolver.

The pirates boarded the steamer at Batum, either as passengers or members of the crew. At 9 o'clock on the night

of May 6 fifteen men, wearing up from various parts of the ship, covered off-deck and passengers with pistols and shotguns, and ordered them to lie on the floor. The pirates searched the ship for two hours.

From 9 o'clock Thursday night until 2 o'clock the following morning the pirates kept the passengers in a state of fear. The surprise was sprung upon the majority of the passengers were still in the dining saloon and they had no opportunity to hide their valuables. Mrs. Haskell, Mrs. Daly and Mrs. Booth were in their cabins, which the pirates searched repeatedly. Mrs. Haskell saved \$20,000 in a money belt by throwing it into a waste water receptacle, but she was robbed of money and jewels worth \$5,000.

The American women say the men who robbed them all wore black masks and were apparently Russians, although possibly some may have been Bulgarians. The steamer was crowded with refugees, most of whom had converted their property into money to avoid confiscation by the Bolsheviks. The American women were brought here by the United States destroyer Gale.

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Camels are sold everywhere in scientifically sealed packages of 20 cigarettes; or ten packages (200 cigarettes) in a glassine-paper-covered carton. We strongly recommend this carton for the home or office supply or when you travel.

R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N. C.

ASKS \$6,500,000 TO BUY WAR BUILDINGS

Brooklyn Supply Base Among Structures Baker Seeks.

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Congress was asked today by Secretary of War Baker to appropriate \$6,500,000 for the purchase of the site of warehouses, shaves and other property built during the war at a cost of \$145,000,000. Mr. Baker said the purchase did not mean permanent retention of the properties, as some of them, which he did not specify, would be sold.

Proposed expenditures include: Brooklyn supply base, \$3,555,000; Philadelphia supply base, \$754,337; Jeffersonville, Ind., quartermaster depot, \$225,000; Piedmont, N. C., ordnance depot, \$250,000; Baltimore quartermaster depot, \$100,000; Detroit recuperator depot, \$140,000; New Cumberland, Pa., reserve depot, \$92,000, and Middletown, Pa., ordnance depot, \$50,000.

GIRLS DRESSING ON "TICK."

Credit Reputations Ruined in Efforts to Make a Show.

TOPEKA, Kan., May 10.—Working girls trying to dress like millionaires' daughters is ruining the credit reputation of a lot of Topeka girls, according to local collectors of delinquent accounts.

You can't blame the delinquency all on the working girls," said the collector. "Extravagant buying on the part of the well-to-do is setting too lively a pace for the good of the community. A lot of folks think automobiles must be fed gasoline whether or not bills can be paid for covering the human machine."

Folks running up big charge accounts that can't be paid do themselves as well as the merchant a great injustice," the collector continued. "Some folks, especially working girls, believe they are financially well fixed if they pay \$1 down each week on their old account, meanwhile running new accounts at other stores."

"It may be said for the majority of working girls, however, that bills are paid promptly."

COMPULSORY ATHLETICS.

MADRID, May 10.—Compulsory athletics instruction in the national schools was demanded by the president of the National Athletic Association at a conference with Premier Dato to-day. He also asked that Athletic meetings be made free from taxation and urged the Government to appropriate money to pay the expenses of preparing a Spanish team for entrance in the Olympiad at Antwerp. Many athletes in various sports already have begun training for the Antwerp meet.

Fire Record.

A. M. 6:00—420 W. 118th st.; auto. Collier Publishing Co. 6:15—120 W. 41st st.; Bush-War. 6:20—23 Broadway; Charles B. Nichols Co. 6:30—100 W. 118th st.; auto. Collier Publishing Co. 6:45—120 W. 41st st.; Bush-War. 6:50—23 Broadway; Charles B. Nichols Co.